been fixed under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (including Intensive Jawahar Rozgar Yojana) during the year 1995-96. Under the Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS), however, no targets of employment generation are fixed as the E/S is a demand-driven scheme.

Shortage of Drinking Water in Orissa

6532. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the entire State of Orissa, particularly southern and western Orissa, are facing acute shortage of drinking water;

(b) if so, the steps taken to remove the drinking water shortage in Orissa; and

(c) the specific steps taken to ensure potable drinking water supply in the undivided Koraput and Kalahandi districts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS & EMPLOYMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI UTTAMBHAI PATEL): (a) No, Sir, However, in certain difficult and scarcity areas, uncovered and partially covered habitations are facing shortage of drinking water.

(b) In the affected areas, alternative sources of water supply, piped water supply schemes, extra deepwell hand pump are being provided to meet the situation. The State Government has drawn up a draft action plan for coverage of uncovered and partially covered habitations.

(c) the specific steps taken to ensure potable drinking water supply in the undivided Koraput and Kalahandi districts include a three month action plan upto June, 1995 to provide drinking water in scarcity prone areas, mobilsing additional indigenously built rigs for deployment in the inaccessible areas, deployment of all terrain fast moving rigs and affective repairs and maintenance of tube wells.

Prevention of contamination of Drinking Water in Villages

6533. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) how many villages have so far been covered to prevent contamination of drinking water, chemically and biologically, in the whole of the country, particularly in Bihar;

(b) the details of the plans to cover the remaining villages; and

(c) by when it is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS & EMPLOYMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI UTTAMBHAI PATEL): (a) The objective of Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission and State Sector Minimum Needs Programme is to provide safe drinking water in the identified problem villages and partially covered villages through various schemes at the stage of their commissioning. Where the existing sources are effected with chemical and bacteriological contamination alternative safe sources, treatment measures and treatment plants like defluoridation/desalination/iron removal plants are taken up. Apart from the villages covered through treatment plants, 161576 identified problem villages of 1985 survey have been provided safe drinking water facilities upto 31.3.1995. These include all the identified 9199 problem villages in Bihar, which have been covered fully or partially with safe drinking water facilities.

(b) 146 problem villages of 1985 survey remained to be provided safe drinking water as on 31.3. 1995. The States have formulated appropriate schemes for coverage of these villages under the State Sector MNP and ARWSP, Sub-Missions etc.

(c) The remaining problem villages are likely to be provided safe drinking water by the end of 1995-96.